

GROUNDWATER GEOLOGIST

DEFINITION:

Under general direction, to perform difficult professional hydrogeological work; to assist in the implementation of the San Diego County Groundwater Ordinance; to lead the work of other professionals engaged in such work; and to perform related duties.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS:

This class is found only in the department of Planning and Land Use. Incumbents in this class report directly to the Deputy Director. This class differs from the Hydrogeologist in that the latter performs hydrogeological investigations and special studies related to leaky underground hazardous substances storage tanks, hazardous waste sites, and subsurface environment, while the former performs functions related to the implementation of the groundwater ordinance.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES:

Review groundwater studies initiated, pursuant to the Groundwater Ordinance; delineate and map groundwater impacted basins as stipulated within the County Groundwater Ordinance; maintain and update the groundwater monitoring program; conduct geotechnical studies to determine groundwater characteristics of the fractured rock system of the County; assist in the public education of the residents of the County regarding the finite yet renewable groundwater resources; advise local water service agencies and communities groups in assessing groundwater problems.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

Thorough Knowledge of:

- Principles of groundwater resource exploration, development, and management with a strong background in hydrogeology.
- Fractured rock hydrogeological systems with an understanding of recharge and storage characteristics.
- Applicable laws and regulations related to the use of groundwater within the State of California.

General Knowledge of:

- Land use laws and regulations including the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Skills and Abilities to:

- Use professional judgment in the utilization and interpretation of results from hydrogeological investigations.
- Perform independent research and investigations.
- Efficiently use computer applications for word processing and graphics.
- Communicate effectively in both oral and written form.
- Make presentations to public hearing bodies.
- Establish and maintain effective relations with other county employees, developers and public and private agencies in order to gain their cooperation in addressing the groundwater concerns of the County.

EDUCATION/EXPERIENCE:

Education, training, and/or experience which demonstrates possession of the knowledge, skills and abilities listed above. An example of qualifying education/experience is: Current registration as a geologist in the State of California, as defined in section 7800 et seq. of the California Business and Professional Code (the Geologist and Geophysicist Act); **OR**, the ability to meet the qualifications for registration within one calendar year from date of hire; **AND**, three (3) years of professional work experience in the field of hydrogeological analysis, evaluation, and management, under the supervision of a California registered geologist, or a registered civil or petroleum engineer.

Note: Professional work does not include routine sampling, laboratory work, or geological drafting.

SPECIAL NOTES, LICENSES, OR REQUIREMENTS:**License:**

A current California Class C driver's license or the ability to arrange transportation for field travel is required at time of appointment and must be maintained throughout employment.

Working Conditions:

Incumbents must be physically capable of meeting field-working conditions, including walking and climbing in rough terrain and working in adverse weather conditions.